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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**23 MARCH 2018**

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Fairfield - Travis Air Force Base Gate Crash Investigated as Terror Attack

(U) An identified driver breached the main security gate at Travis Air Force base on 21 March, and then died when his vehicle exploded into flames. Investigators are treating the incident as an act of terrorism. The vehicle carried propane tanks which the driver deliberately ignited after crashing through the security gate, according to reporting.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [San Francisco Gate](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Mexico - Remains of 240 People Found, Apparent Victims of 'The Soup Maker'

(U) Tijuana - Police have found the remains of at least 240 people thought to have been killed by a single hitman who used acid to dissolve his victims in barrels before dumping them in mass graves. The method gave the suspected murderer Santiago Meza Lopez the nickname of "The Soup Maker," and investigators believe there could be as many as 650 victims buried there. Lopez is alleged to have worked for the Sinaloa Drug Cartel for £440 a week.

SOURCE: 23 March 2018, [New Zealand Herald](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia - US State Department Designates Man as Terrorist

(U) Washington - The US Department of State designated Joe Asperman, a French national, as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) yesterday. The designation seeks to deny Asperman the resources he needs to plan and carry out further terrorist attacks. Asperman allegedly is a senior chemical weapons expert for ISIS, overseeing chemical operations, production, and deployment.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [Imperial Valley News](#)

(U) Georgia - Cyber Attack Hits Official City Computers

(U) Atlanta - The computers for the City of Atlanta were cyberattacked yesterday by ransomware that encrypted the personal and financial data of a presently unknown amount of people. The mayor stated that the city does not yet know of the extent of the attack. The City Chief Operating Officer said public safety, water, and airport operations have not been affected. The city also said it was working with the FBI, US Department of Homeland Security, Cisco, and Microsoft to determine what information was accessed. Officials said everyone who has done business with the city is potentially at risk.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [NBC 11 News](#)

(U) Texas - Authorities Discover the Austin Bomber Had a List of Potential Targets and Sites

(U) Austin - Investigators recently discovered that Mark Anthony Conditt had a list of future targets. The list was found while authorities combed through Conditt's home to piece together a motive for the bombings, which killed two people and injured several others in Austin. Congressman Michael McCaul

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said the list prompted authorities to search the target sites for explosive devices. Conditt had a target list of future targets, complete with addresses, according to officials. The relationship between the targets has yet to be determined.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [OAN News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) France - Two Victims in French Supermarket Hostage-Taking**

(U) Trebes - A gunman claiming allegiance to ISIS fired shots and took hostages at a supermarket in southwestern France today. Security forces were responding to two separate incidents, one at the supermarket in Trebes and the second, a 15-minute drive away, in the town of Carcassonne where a policeman was shot. It was unclear if the two incidents were linked. The gunman claimed allegiance to ISIS, according to the local prosecutor.

SOURCE: 23 March 2018, [Agence France Presse](#)

(U) Mexico - Journalist Murdered in Mexico

(U) Gutiérrez Zamora - The Veracruz State police said yesterday that journalist Leobardo Vázquez was found dead in the town of Gutiérrez Zamora, which is in an area known for drug gang activity. Mr. Vázquez is the third journalist murdered in Mexico this year. In 2017, 10 journalists were murdered. Mexico's National Human Rights Commission condemned the killing, noting that Veracruz is the most dangerous place in Mexico for journalists, with 22 media workers killed in the state since 2000.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [New York Times](#)

(U) Mexico - Eight People Killed in Attack by Gunmen at Social Event

(U) Purisima del Rincon - Eight people were killed and 11 wounded after gunmen burst into a social event in the central Mexican town of Purisima del Rincon, according to the Guanajuato state prosecutor. Gunmen pulled up in several vehicles, opened fire on those attending the event, and then fled toward the state of Jalisco. There were no immediate details on the possible motive, but the region has recently seen violence. Earlier this week, three film students disappeared on the outskirts of Guadalajara, the capital of Jalisco, prompting hundreds of students to march and demand they be found.

SOURCE: 22 March 2018, [Daily Mail](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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